

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Status

Claims 44-46 and 48-72 are pending. Claims 59-61 and 65-67 are currently amended to remove double claim dependency. No new matter has been entered.

§112, 2nd paragraph, Rejection

Claims 59-61 and 65-67 are rejected for improper dependency; namely, each claim refers back to two different claims and not in the alternative. These claims have been amended and do not need to expressly recite that the at least one naphthalene-1,8-dicarboxylic monoimide of the formula I is “as defined in claim 44” since such definition from claim 44 is included indirectly via the claim dependency. For example, claim 59 depends from claim 54 which depends from claim 53 and claim 53 recites that the monoimide is “as defined in claim 44”. Accordingly, as the improper double dependency has been removed, Applicants request withdrawal of this rejection.

§103(a) Rejection

Claims 44-46 and 48-69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious in view of *Naik* (US 2007/0117887).

Naik has a §102(e) date as of November 21, 2005. The current application is the national stage of PCT/EP04/12873 (November 12, 2004). Accordingly, *Naik* does not qualify as prior art because Applicants’ U.S. effective filing date (2004) is earlier than that of *Naik* (2005). Applicants request the withdrawal of this rejection.

Additionally, the current application claims priority to US 10/770,603 (February 4, 2004) and DE 10353328.1 (November 14, 2003). Therefore, for the sake of completion, Applicants submit herewith the certified English translations of US 10/770,603 and DE

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10353328.1. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner acknowledge Applicants' claim to priority to US 10/770,603 and DE 10353328.1.

Conclusion

For the reasons discussed above, Applicants submit that all now-pending claims are in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections and passage of this case to issue.

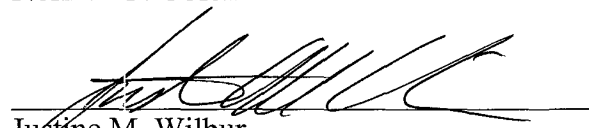
Respectfully submitted,

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